मऊ-नीमच (मध्य प्रदेश) मार्ग को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग घोषित किया जाना

144. **श्री बालकवि बैरागी:** क्या जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) उस राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग का नाम क्या है जिसकी एक सड़क मध्य प्रदेश में मऊ से नीमच तक जाती है;

(ख) क्या सरकार ने उक्त भाग को सरकारी तौर पर राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के रूप में घोषित कर दिया है;

(ग) क्या मध्य प्रदेश राज्य सरकार ने इस सड़क के लिए केन्द्र सरकार के वित्तीय सहायता हेतु कभी कोई अनुरोध किया है; और

(घ) इस सड़क को राष्ट्रीय स्तर की बनाने में केन्द्र सरकार को कौन-कौन सी बाधाओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है?

जल-भूतल परिवहन मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा. देवेन्द्र प्रधान: (क) और (ख) जी हां। यह सड़क अभी हाल में घोषित राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग सं. 79 का हिस्सा है।

(ग) जनवरी, 1999 में इस सड़क को राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग के रूप में घोषणा के पश्चात् ऐसा कोई अनुरोध प्राप्त नहीं हुआ है।

(घ) निधियों की उपलब्धता के अध्यधीन इस सड़क का राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग मानक के अनुरूप विकास किया जाएगा।

Allocation for development of waterways

145. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) what provisions were made by the Inland Waterways Authority of India during the Ninth-Plan period for the development of three National Waterways as well as new waterways keeping in view the fact that IWT (Inland Water Transport) represents a significant resource for India;

(b) how far the objectives emphasised by the National Transport Policy Committee have been fulfilled; and

(c) whether money allotted during the Eighth Plan period has been spent in this regard and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Against the projected requirement of Rs. 1701 crores by the Working Group on Ninth Plan, only a sum of Rs. 308 crores has been tentatively agreed to by the Planning Commission. Out of this amount, Rs. 264 crores is for the development of the existing 3 National Waterways, Rs. 10 crores for the development of new waterways and Rs. 34 crores for other schemes.

(b) National Transport Policy Committee have identified ten waterways for declaration as National Waterways out of which three waterways have been declared as National Waterways. New waterways will be declared keeping in view of the availability of funds during the 9th Plan.

(c) No, Sir. The entire money could not be utilised during 8th Plan due to inadequate manpower, delay in conceptualisation of schemes and absence of overall strategy.

Double laning of National Highway-44

146. SHRI KHAGEN DAS: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has received a proposal from the State Government for double laning of the National Highway-44 in Tripura; and

(b) by when will the double laning work be undertaken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) and (b) National Highway 44 in Tripura is being developed and maintained by Border Roads Organisation. The National Highway is already double lane in about 26 km and Government has accepted the need to widen the remaining length also in phases within the availability of funds. Sanctioning of the project and start of the work will depend upon inter-se-priority of the project and availa- bility of fund.

Construction of new Express Highways

147. SHRI A. VIJAYA RAGHAVAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be